Will Your Words Justify or Condemn You?

> **Your glorying is not good. Know ye not that a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump?**
> **1 Corinthians 5:6 (KJV)**

Today I write this article sickened in my heart over a **YouTube video** by a man who calls himself a preacher. He is insulting, berating and name calling Atheists going to a convention. Instead of spreading the Good News he is promoting hate. Where is the love of Christ? Where is the golden rule? While some of the things he says are true, the christ that this man is preaching is not the Christ I know.

A few months back I wrote an article entitled **"Compassion, Not Condemnation"**. In it I expressed what I felt God was showing me in scripture and by His Holy Spirit; that we must have the courage to correct and warn others who have fallen into sin or bad doctrine, but at the same time treat them with the compassion and love of Christ, not condemnation. We condemn the bad doctrine, not the one espousing it; the sin, not the sinner.

> **But now I have written unto you not to keep company, if any man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or an extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. For what have I to do to judge them also that are without? do not ye judge them that are within?**
> **1 Corinthians 5:11-12 (KJV)**

I draw your attention to the word "railer" in the above passage. According to Webster's 1828 dictionary a railer is "One who scoffs, insults, censures or reproaches with opprobrious language". Opprobrious means "Reproachful and contemptuous; scurrilous; as opprobrious language; opprobrious words or terms" and "Blasted with infamy; despised; rendered hateful; as an opprobrious name".

> **If a man say, I love God, and hateth his brother, he is a liar: for he that loveth not his brother whom he hath seen, how can he love God whom he hath not seen?**
> **1 John 4:20 (KJV)**

I remind you that the greatest commandment is love. We are not called just to love the lovable, but all men. We are all called to be Christ like, and when "God so loved the world" that meant everyone.

Men who have allowed themselves to get to a place of pride become as the Pharisees, they have completely missed the boat. They never think "There but for the grace of God goes I". This is why it is so crucial for **"We Who are Sinners"** to treat our fellow sinners with compassion, to never forget that we were once living in our sins too. The unbeliever is not stupid, but blinded by the prince of this world.

> **Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into**

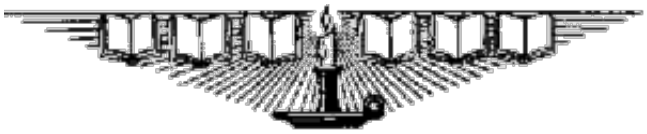
> **everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels: For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not. Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee? Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.**
> **Matthew 25:41-46 (KJV)**

We must strive to reason with men, to show them the love of Christ. Yes,**"Some are Saved with Fear"**, but even then it is never done in a mocking way, but with tremendous concern for their souls. Ours is not to judge but to warn.

Now I want to show you the difference in the way that Christ dealt with unbelievers and Pharisees:

> **O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. A good man out of the good treasure of the heart bringeth forth good things: and an evil man out of the evil treasure bringeth forth evil things. But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment. For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.**
> **Matthew 12:34-37 (KJV)**

Jesus hated the works of the Pharisees and never missed an opportunity to call them vipers and hypocrites. If you have any doubt read Matthew 23. Compare to the compassion He had for the unbeliever:

> **And it came to pass, as Jesus sat at meat in the house, behold, many publicans and sinners came and sat down with him and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw it, they said unto his disciples, Why eateth your Master with publicans and sinners? But when Jesus heard that, he said unto them, They that be whole need not a physician, but they that are sick. But go ye and learn what that meaneth, I will have mercy, and not sacrifice: for I am not come to call the righteous, but sinners to repentance.**
> **Matthew 9:10-13 (KJV)**

Was Jesus suggesting that the Pharisees were righteous men? Of course not! What He was saying is that He came for those who knew that they were sinners and needed repentance. God forbid that we ever let ourselves forget that we are sinners and constantly need His grace.